

*SISYRINCHIUM MUCRONATUM* IN PENOBSCOT COUNTY, MAINE.—On the 18th of June, 1933, Dr. Manton Copeland of Bowdoin College, Mr. W. Dale Currier of Caribou, Maine, and the writer were passing through Winn in Penobscot County, when a delay of about ten minutes made it possible to look more carefully at the plants by the roadside near a garage at that place. Growing in shallow soil over a ledge by the east side of the road, at the edge of a wooded area, we noticed a Blue-eyed Grass unlike any of the species we had previously seen growing. It occupied an area less than twelve feet in length. Near it grew the common *Sisyrinchium angustifolium*. We took a few specimens of the stranger, leaving most of the small colony to continue its existence there. Material for a sheet sent to Dr. M. L. Fernald has been identified by him as *Sisyrinchium mucronatum* Michx.

In December Dr. Fernald wrote, "it is the first evidence of the species from east of the Connecticut Valley. In this jump to north-central and eastern Maine it is, therefore, like numerous other species which we already know from Aroostook County and adjacent areas."

With this interesting information before us, it is needless to state that it is an addition to the flora of Maine.—ARTHUR H. NORTON, Museum of Natural History, Portland, Maine.

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LEMNA CYCLOSTASA AN INVALID NAME.—In 1897, in his *North American Lemnaceae*, C. H. Thompson took up for *Lemna valdiviana* Philippi (1864) the name *L. cyclostasa*, ascribing it to "(Ell.) Chev. Fl. Par. 2: 256. 1827. Schleid. Linnaea, 13: 390. 1839." These citations are given in *Index Kewensis* and it seems probable that Thompson, monographing the genus, found it easier to copy from that indispensable but not infallible work than to check the publications himself. In preparing the 7th edition of Gray's Manual Dr. Robinson and I looked carefully into the matter and, as a result, maintained *L. valdiviana*. In the various works emanating from New York, Britton & Brown's Illustrated Flora, Small's Manual and Rydberg's Flora of the Prairies and Plains, the plant is still called, following *Index Kewensis* and Thompson, *L. cyclostasa* (Ell.) Chev. with the reference to vol. ii. 256 (1827).

In reviewing the group for the next edition of Gray's Manual I had again checked the matter and had retained *Lemna valdiviana* as the first valid name for the species; but the persistent acceptance of the



erroneous name by those who should know better makes it desirable to ask them to search Chevalier for any mention whatever of *L. cyclostasa*. Elliott had originally described *L. minor*, var. ? *Cyclostasa*, Ell. Sk. Bot. S. C. and Ga. ii. 518 (1824); but there was no obvious reason why Chevalier, in a flora of Paris, should discuss it, and a fourth raking of his pages shows that he did not do so! As to the reference to Schleiden given by Thompson, after *Index Kewensis*, that was merely the enumeration among the synonyms of *L. minor* of a "*L. cyclostasa* Elliot[t]." But certainly such a citation in the synonymy of *L. minor* does not constitute the publication of *L. cyclostasa* as a valid species, even though, by inference, we can associate the synonymic binomial with Elliott's variety.—M. L. FERNALD.

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